

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Technical Report No. 121

A report of 32 pages prepared by an Expert Committee on Rabies is available. It is a publication of the Ryerson Press, Toronto, and costs 30c. This report should be in the hands of everyone, particularly veterinarians, interested in rabies. It deals with many features of the problem, such as diagnosis, control, standards for antirabies vaccines and serum.

The report itself is a review and therefore not susceptible to review in these columns. It should be emphasized however that this report should be extraordinarily helpful to all persons interested in the problem of rabies.

EXPERIMENTAL INFECTION OF DOGS WITH LEPTOSPIRA ICTEROHAEMORRHAGIAE

Acute infections with symptoms classified as subclinical (28%), mild (25%), moderate (31%) and severe (17%) were produced by Law and his associates (J. Infect. Dis. 98: 260, 1956) in dogs 2 to 6 months of age by the inoculation of a stock culture of *Leptospira icterohaemorrhagiae*. The virulence of the strain increased through eight passages in the dog with intermediate culture in vitro and passage in the hamster. The first indication of disease was a febrile response on the second or third day, temperatures 104 to 106.5°F. Other manifestations beginning on the fourth day were depression, partial anorexia, pharyngitis, tonsillitis and pericorneal infection. Jaundice which occurred in 47% of the dogs was evident in the sclera on the fourth or fifth day, later becoming apparent in the skin and mucous membranes. It appeared to be due to hepatocellular injury. In severe or fatal disease, jaundice was accompanied by uremia. Renal function studies (J. Infect. Dis. 98: 260, 1956) indicated that in severe infections, the glomerular filtration flow was reduced to as little as 10% of normal. In moderate infections transient functional impairment was observed only in the dogs with slight increases in blood urea nitrogen.